

**BACKGROUND:**

The passage of Senate Bill (SB) 742 resulted in significant changes to the Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program (Grants Program) administered by the OHMVR Division. The new statute became effective January 2008.

As a result of the changes in the program, the OHMVR Division developed a complete set of regulations to implement the Grants Program. The regulations were created in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, administered by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL), and are the product of substantial staff effort and considerable public participation.

Additionally, the OHMVR Division introduced the On-Line Grant Application (OLGA) database. This new, web-based, application system allowed the applicants to work on and submit their application via the internet. These positive changes were well received and allowed for a successful 2008/09 grant cycle.

As we continue to refine our regulations and grants process, it is important to keep in mind Public Resource Code (PRC), 5090.50(b) as changed by SB 742. This section now sets the percentage amount to be allocated per funding category. The categories and corresponding percentages are as follows:

- 50% for Operation and Maintenance
- 25% for Restoration
- 20% for Law Enforcement
- 5% for Education and Safety

SB 742 redefined the role of the OHMVR Commission relative to the Grants Program. Among its many duties, PRC Section 5090.24(b), directs the OHMVR Commission to “. . . include a public meeting, before the beginning of each grant program cycle, to collect public input concerning the program, recommendations for program improvements, and specific project needs for the system.” This responsibility is reiterated in California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 14, Section 4970.04(b) of the Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program regulations.

With the completion of the 2008/09 grants cycle, the OHMVR Division grant staff identified several areas of the regulations that may need to be revised. These adjustments to the program should result in greater clarity and efficiency for applicants and staff.

**ACTION:**

As required by PRC 5090.24(b), it is appropriate for the OHMVR Commission to seek public input on the program. Timely submission of any input will allow staff to consider suggestions and incorporate changes prior to the next funding cycle of the Grants Program. The public will have the opportunity to comment on any regulatory changes pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act.

**POTENTIAL TOPICS FOR REVISION:**

The OHMVR Division has identified several areas of the Grants Program regulations that may warrant revision or clarification. Minor revisions may be proposed in the General Criteria and the Project Specific Criteria. Examples of the modifications include:

**General Application Requirements**

- Documentation necessary at Preliminary Application
- NEPA/CEQA review period

**Project Specific Issues**

- Grant request adjustments
- Minimum grant per Law Enforcement applicant